

**Measure Your Life**  
 Not by the positions you have occupied but by the work you have done.  
 Not by the honors you have won but by the honors you have deserved.  
 Not by the things you have lost but by the things you have saved.  
 Not by the pains you have endured but by those you have relieved.  
 Not by the books you have read but by the ideas you have accumulated.  
 Not by the things you own but by the things you can appreciate.  
 Not by the creeds you believe but by the character you have developed.

—The War Cry



I was working on my macrame plant hanger when suddenly there was a horrific WOOSH and I threw my hanger down the elevator shaft. Asking my instructor if they all did that, she replied, matter-of-factly, "Some do, some don't."  
 Mack sat bolt up, right in bed yelling: "Was that the water pump?"  
 Torn out of a very pleasant dream, I had to concede that it was indeed the water pump blowing up - again!  
 Paddling at 2 a.m.

Living in the country is not one long round of green grass, fresh air and tripping lightly through the roses. It's things like water pumps, septic tanks, frozen pipes and snow.  
 This particular night, just after Christmas, we went through the usual dash down stairs to paddle through rising water. Mack struggled under the geyser of water to turn off the hysterical pump and attempt replacement of whichever hose it was this time.

I splashed about saving important things like dahlia bulbs and the pool table while Mack put on his muttering act.  
 When the pump was together again I went up stairs to wash my hands only to find the tap made obscene coughing sounds at me instead of producing water.  
 The pump had, of course, lost its prime.  
 Mack said, "Oh, golly," or words to that effect and trundled to the shop for more tools. Just an ordinary everyday occurrence in the country.

From ballet to pipe wrenches  
 Water pumps are always particular trouble makers, it seems. The old pump we had on the first farm used to get air locks, among other things, that necessitated having its nut removed to let the air out.  
 Sounds simple but our cellar was earth floored and only five feet deep. Mack had attempted to dig out the floor to a

more accommodating depth but had only succeeded in digging trenches to all points of interest. When the cellar flooded - quite regularly - we negotiated the babbling - brook trenches by means of little board bridges - just like a fairy grotto!  
 Mother came to stay when number two child was born and was initiated into the many quirks of primitive farm life, including explicit instructions on maintenance of the water pump.  
 Mom's a petite former ballet dancer with very little mechanical know-how, but she'll tackle anything - once. Her first air lock occurred when I was cozily in labour several miles away esconced in a warm clean hospital bed.

Armed with a pipe wrench as big as she is, the little lady bounced down the stairs, picked her way through the semi-annual flood, stood on the bridge overlooking a muddy trench, and yanked off the nut with supreme effort. Unfortunately, she forgot to turn off the pump first!  
 The resulting jet of ice-water struck her squarely in the eye knocking her clean off the bridge into the water below.  
 She said it was like a bad movie with Harpo Marx standing transfixed idiotically under a water fall. She couldn't move from shock and got drenched to her underwear before she managed to turn the damned thing off. Crawling sodden and filthy back up the stairs she emerged from the trapdoor to discover she had visitors come for tea.

The stories of water systems and sewage could fill a book (now that's an idea.) The only bit of advice I can offer the neophyte country dweller dealing with these things for the first time is: - pay for your own pipes into the nearest town even if it's three miles away and costs you a fortune, get that town water and pipes out to your place no matter what. It's worth it.

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**No Mirex in the Credit**

There isn't any Mirex in the Georgetown area but "extremely low traces" of a chemical called Dechlorane Plus have been found.  
 Allan Johnson, Georgetown, a biologist with the water resources branch of the Ministry of Environment for Ontario indicated Dechlorane Plus is much less dangerous than Mirex.  
 He explained that Mirex is sold under the brand name of Dechlorane and Dechlorane Plus is the brand name for another chemical which is in the same family as Mirex but is much different. Johnson compared the two chemicals with an auto firm's products where an auto maker has dozens of different kinds of cars.

**AIB accepts settlement**

Wage increases negotiated by Ford Canada Union and management have been approved by the anti-inflation board. The increases were accepted November 7 by 13,000 rank and file Ford employees.  
 The three year agreement which covers the Oakville plant and those in Windsor, Niagara, St. Thomas and Brampton calls for increases of 10.42 per cent, 8.13 per cent and 6.24 per cent respectively for each of the contract years. It is effective from September 15.  
 Guidelines set by the AIB were for increases of 10.60 per cent, 8 per cent and 6 per cent, but the board approved the settlement, saying it was within the spirit and intent of the program.  
 The new contract received the support of approximately 70 per cent of the 5,500 Ford employees in Oakville, many of them from Halton Hills.  
 Johnson says the difference between Mirex and Dechlorane Plus is best shown by the formulas for the two chemicals. The formula for Mirex or Dechlorane is C 10-C 12 while the formula for Dechlorane Plus is C L 12-C 18-H 12.  
 "Mirex, which is sold under the brand name Dechlorane, and Dechlorane Plus are totally different chemicals," Johnson declared.  
 Between 1963 and 1969 Immont Presstite used Dechlorane in the production of sealants for the auto industry and then switched to Dechlorane Plus and has been using that chemical ever since then. Dechlorane Plus is a fire retardant additive used in making the sealants.  
 Ministry of Environment tests showed there was 0.1 parts per billion of Dechlorane Plus in the Credit River and 0.6 parts per billion of the same chemical in the leachate from the dump. Some was also found in the vicinity of the plant.  
 "It should be noted we have no information to indicate Dechlorane Plus possess any health hazards," Johnson said.  
 He said studies on rats have shown an average person would need to eat over two pounds of pure Dechlorane Plus before their health was in danger.  
 The same tests show only a pound of pure Mirex would be needed to present a health hazard.  
 "There are lots of substances on the supermarket shelves which are more toxic than either Mirex or Dechlorane Plus," Johnson stated.  
 "Tests have shown Dechlorane Plus has a 'very low toxicity to mammals and fish.'  
 "Its solubility in water is less than one part per billion but it is difficult to study its possible bio-magnification in the aquatic environment. Studies with some fish have shown it bio-magnifies in fish up to six times the level found in water after 30 days," Johnson said. He noted studies on fish taken from the Credit River are still being conducted.  
 Bio-magnification refers to the fact a living organism can build up concentrations of substances at higher levels than soil or water.  
 "Dechlorane Plus has a very low concentration factor compared with other contaminants like Mirex which can bio-magnify up to 40,000 times in minnows," he said.  
 Johnson said Immont has been ordered and are complying with requirements to improve the procedures it



WINNERS OF THE ANNUAL FERGUS MIDGET basketball tournament coached by Lyn McLaren are, in front from the left: Rick Lubbers, Todd McIntyre, Murray McNabb, Ted Nadhazi, Kevin Archibald, Tom Rosenbersky and Neville Porter. In the back: Mr. McLaren, Gord Amphlett, John Toebes, Dave Lawson, Martin Osso, Andrew Gregg, Rob Lenizky, Dave Williamson, Vaughn Cole and assistant coach Rick Van Fleet.



WINNERS OF THE REDMEN JUNIOR basketball championship team coached by Rick McArthur are, in front from the left: John Thompson, Steve Mitchell, Gord Bruce, Paul Bowan, Frank Van Opstal and Jack Evans. In back: Jay McFarlane, George Deltaan, Ray Green, Brad Buchanan, Don Coats and Larry Kurtz.

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